TROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be-pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC has set up a new project in Jaisalmer in Rajasthan ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Commission has been conducting exploration in the Rajasthan basin [since 1964. Earlier these activities were being conducted with Jodhpur as the operational base. Now ONGC has established a forward base of the Rajasthan Project at Jaisalmer to facilitate operational requirements.

Self-sufficiency in the field of Chemical Products

♦154. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the chemical industry in the country has made an impressive growth making the country self-sufficient in chemical products and emerging an important supplier in export market ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the export of chemical products in the years to come to earn more foreign j exchange ; and j

(d) if so, what steps are being taken *in t*his regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUMAND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) to (d) The Chemical Industry has made rapid strides in the last two I decades and the country has become self-sufficient in most of the major heavy chemicals.

2. Export of Chemicals and allied items has recorded a steady growth in recent years. As against Rs. 783 crores in 1987-88, the value of export of these items was Rs. 2119 crores during the year 1989-90. For the year 1990-91, an export target of Rs. 3050 crores has been fixed for chemical sector.

3. Incentives available for exporting units in general such as, the facility of duty-free import of raw materials Under the Duty Exemption Entitlement Scheme, Duty Drawback, Import Replenishment Licences, Exemption under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act in respect of export profits and Cash Compensatory Support (CCS), wherever applicable, are available to the units in the chemical sector also.

Celebration of Worid No Tobacco Day

•155. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what steps were taken by Government in connection with the celebration of 'World No Tobacco Day' on 31st May, 1990 to bring about awareness amongst the youth against smoking and consumption of tobacco ; and

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to study the impact and if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD) : (a) The following steps were taken by the